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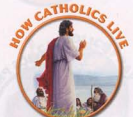
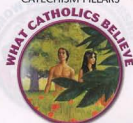
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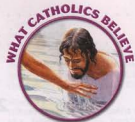
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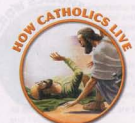


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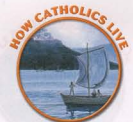


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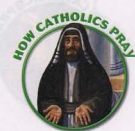


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Baptism and Confirmation

UNIT

2

Baptism and Confirmation are Sacraments of Christian Initiation. They welcome us into the Body of Christ, the Church. After Saint Paul received the Holy Spirit and was baptized, he went on to become one of the Church's greatest saints.

God's Spirit, which is grace, encourages us to follow his teachings and laws.

Based on Ezekiel 36:27



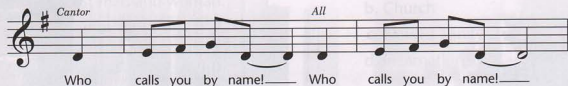
According to tradition, Saint Paul regained his sight on this street in Damascus. As the carving shows, he faced many dangers as he taught about Jesus.



Who Calls You by Name

Words and Music by David Haas

REFRAIN



VERSE

1. Come, and return to the Lord!
Live by the Word of God,
Who calls you by name!
Who calls you by name!
Refrain
2. Seek to be children of light!
Live in the love of God,
Who calls you by name!
Who calls you by name!
Refrain
3. Sing now with all your heart!
Praise and glory be to our God,
Who calls you by name!
Who calls you by name!
Refrain

Take Home



We Are Baptized into the Body of Christ

Through the Sacrament of Baptism, we become children of God and members of the Catholic Church. Baptism washes away Original Sin and fills our souls with God's grace. Through Baptism, we become part of the Body of Christ and no longer live for ourselves but for Christ and his Church.

ACTIVITY

IXΘΥΣ The sign of a fish was a secret sign that early Christians used to identify themselves to one another. In Greek, the initials of the phrase *Jesus Christ, Son of God, Savior*, spell out the word IXΘΥΣ (ihk thoos), which means "fish." Make a fish symbol to identify yourself as a Christian.



WEEKLY PLANNER

On Sunday

Make the Sign of the Cross with holy water to remember your Baptism.

On the Web

blestarewe.com



Visit our Web site for the saint of the day and the reflection question of the week.

Saint of the Week



Saint Maximilian Kolbe
(1894–1941)

During World War II, Father Kolbe, a Polish priest, was arrested by the Nazis and sent to Auschwitz, a concentration camp. He died there after courageously choosing to give up his life so that another prisoner would be spared.

Patron Saint of: political prisoners, Pro-Life Movement
Feast Day: August 14



A Prayer for the Week

Father, you have welcomed us into your family and have given us your Son, Jesus. Send your Spirit to guide our family, now and forever. Amen.

Getting ready for Chapter 5

Take Home

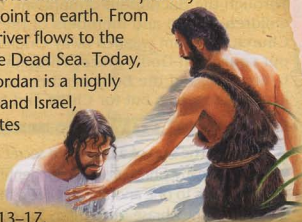


† Scripture Background

In the Time of Jesus

The Jordan River The name “Jordan,” meaning “descender,” aptly describes a river that, when it reaches the end of its journey to the Dead Sea, arrives at the lowest point on earth. From the slopes of Mt. Hermon in Syria, the river flows to the Sea of Galilee, then winds its way to the Dead Sea. Today, in a region where water is scarce, the Jordan is a highly valued source of water for both Jordan and Israel, and has often been the source of disputes between the two countries. For Christians, the Jordan is esteemed as the place where Jesus was baptized.

Read about Jesus’ baptism in Matthew 3:13–17.



OUR CATHOLIC TRADITION

in Leadership

The USCCB The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) is an assembly of all the bishops of the United States and the U.S. Virgin Islands. The work of the USCCB includes coordinating Catholic activities in the United States, organizing religious, charitable, and social welfare work at home and abroad, aiding in education, and helping immigrants. The USCCB has a staff of more than 350 priests, deacons, religious, and laypeople. Its headquarters are in Washington, D.C. To learn more about the USCCB, visit www.usccb.org.



5 We Are Baptized into the Body of Christ



God's Spirit baptized each of us and made us part of the Body of Christ.

Based on 1 Corinthians 12:13

Share

Imagine that your parish priest has asked you to create a club for Catholic kids your age to help them become stronger in their faith. Fill in the chart below with information about your club.

What is your club's name? _____

Who is the patron saint of your club? _____

What kinds of activities does your club do? _____

Design a symbol for your club.

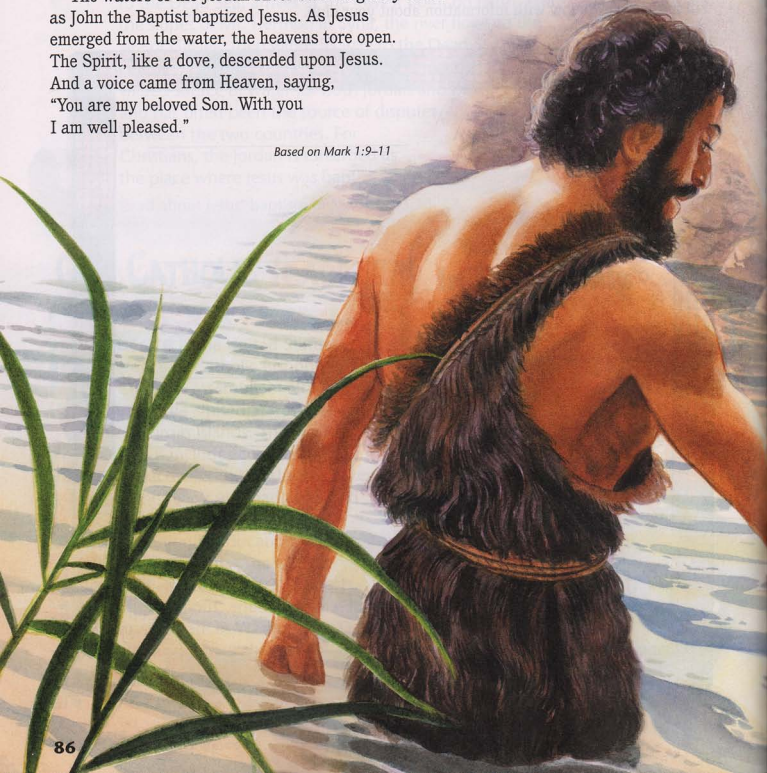
When did God announce that Jesus was his Son?

Scripture The Baptism of Jesus

In the following Scripture story, we read that Jesus went to his cousin, John, to be baptized. Jesus was baptized to show sinners that he loved them and would save them from their sins. The name Jesus means "God saves." We find Salvation because Jesus Christ has saved us.

The waters of the Jordan River swirled gently about as John the Baptist baptized Jesus. As Jesus emerged from the water, the heavens tore open. The Spirit, like a dove, descended upon Jesus. And a voice came from Heaven, saying, "You are my beloved Son. With you I am well pleased."

Based on Mark 1:9-11



We Are Baptized into the Body of Christ

Jesus gave us the **Sacrament of Baptism** to free us from sin and to make us children of God. Baptism is necessary for our Salvation.

In the Sacrament of Baptism, we are freed from **Original Sin** and all personal sins. Original Sin is the sin of Adam and Eve. When Adam and Eve sinned in the Garden of Eden, they disobeyed God and turned away from his love. Through Baptism, we are freed from Original Sin and reborn as God's children.

In Baptism, we also become members of the **Body of Christ**. The Body of Christ is the Church, or the People of God. We believe that Jesus Christ is the Head of the Church and that we are his Body. Jesus lives with us and in us. The Church lives from Christ, in Christ, and for Christ.

Activity

What three things happen to a person when he or she is baptized?

Faith Words

Sacrament of Baptism

In the Sacrament of Baptism, we are freed from Original Sin and all personal sins. We become children of God and members of the Body of Christ.

Original Sin

Original Sin is the sin of Adam and Eve that has been passed on to all human beings.

Body of Christ

The Body of Christ is the Church, or the People of God.



What was
Nicodemus?

Hear & Believe

The Way to Eternal Life

One night, a Jewish leader named Nicodemus came to Jesus in secret. He said to Jesus, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God, for no one could perform such miracles unless God was with him."

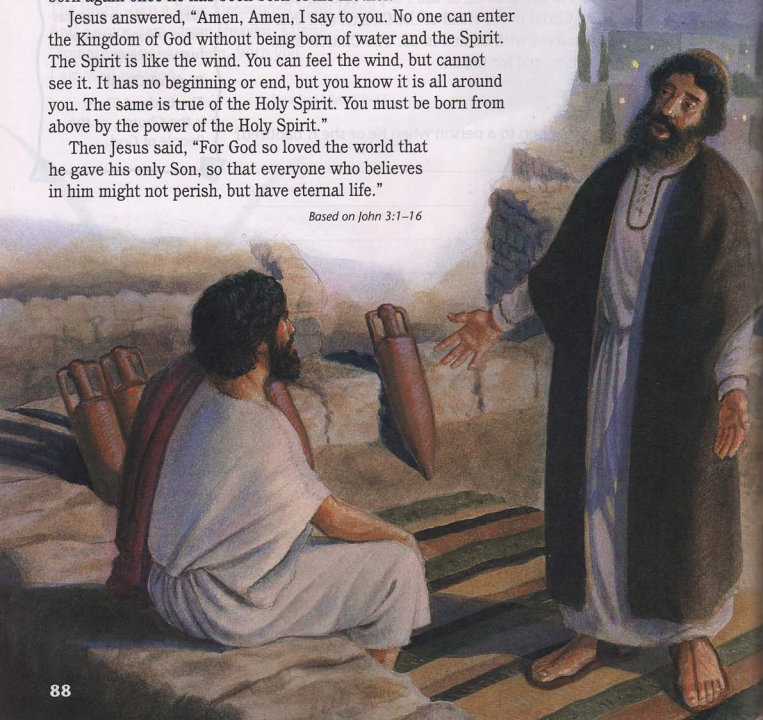
Jesus answered him, "Nicodemus, no one can see the Kingdom of God without being born from above."

Nicodemus was puzzled, "How can this happen?" he asked. "How can a person be born again? Surely, a person cannot be born again once he has been born of his mother."

Jesus answered, "Amen, Amen, I say to you. No one can enter the Kingdom of God without being born of water and the Spirit. The Spirit is like the wind. You can feel the wind, but cannot see it. It has no beginning or end, but you know it is all around you. The same is true of the Holy Spirit. You must be born from above by the power of the Holy Spirit."

Then Jesus said, "For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish, but have eternal life."

Based on John 3:1-16



Our Church Teaches

Just as Jesus taught Nicodemus, in the Sacrament of Baptism, we are “born from above” with water and the Holy Spirit. We are filled with sanctifying grace and begin our spiritual journey as children of God.

Activity

On the lines, answer the following.

1. What does it mean to be born from above?

2. Why are all Catholics and other Christians born from above?

3. Even though Nicodemus didn't understand what Jesus meant when he said we must be born from above, he remembered Jesus' words. Later, he became a disciple of Jesus, and after Jesus was crucified, he showed his love for him in a very special way.

Read John 19:38–42. On the lines, describe what Nicodemus did in this Scripture passage.

We Believe

Through Baptism, we become children of God and members of the Body of Christ.

How can we build up the Body of Christ?

Respond

Building Up the Body of Christ

As baptized Catholics, we are called by God to build up the Body of Christ. The saints did this by using their gifts and talents for the good of the Church. Reading stories about the saints can inspire us to think of ways that God may be calling us to serve his Church.

Saint Maximilian Kolbe



Raymond Kolbe was born in Poland in 1894. When he was twelve years old, the Blessed Virgin Mary appeared to him. From then on, Raymond developed a great love and devotion for Mary. When he grew up, he became a Franciscan priest and took the name Maximilian Mary. Several years later, World War II broke out, and Father Maximilian was arrested and

sent to a Nazi concentration camp. Although he suffered great abuse, Father Maximilian gave spiritual help to the other prisoners. Together, they prayed the Rosary and sang hymns to Mary. Father Maximilian told the other prisoners that the Nazis might kill their bodies, but they could never kill their souls.

Finally, Father Maximilian made the greatest sacrifice—his life. He volunteered to take the place of another prisoner who was condemned to death. Pope John Paul II called Maximilian Kolbe the patron saint of the difficult twentieth century. During a time of war, he brought many people to a deeper faith in God when everything else was lost.

Saint Rose Philippine Duchesne



As a young girl in France, Rose dreamed of traveling to the United States to be a missionary to the American Indians. When she grew up, she joined the Visitation Sisters. This was during the French Revolution, a very dangerous time in France. Priests and religious brothers and sisters were persecuted, and many were killed.

Rose was forced to leave her convent and return home. However, she showed great courage by hiding priests and caring for prisoners. When the war was over, Rose joined the religious sisters of the Society of the Sacred Heart.

In 1818, Mother Rose's childhood wish was fulfilled. She and four other sisters traveled to the United States, where they opened schools and orphanages. Mother Rose was greatly admired by the Potawatomi Indians of Kansas. They called her "the woman who prays always." When Pope John Paul II named her a saint in 1988, he said, "This great pioneer looked to the future with the eyes of the heart—a heart that was on fire with God's love."

Activity

You can help build up the Body of Christ at home, at school, and in your parish. Look at the examples below, then write ways that you can be a part of building up Christ's Body.

Justin

Home: Do chores without Mom or Dad having to remind me.

School: Defend a student who is being teased.

Parish: Become an altar server.

Rachel

Home: Baby-sit my younger sister while Mom makes dinner.

School: Try not to talk in class when I'm not supposed to.

Parish: Really pay attention at Sunday Mass and join in the singing of the hymns.

Home: _____

School: _____

Parish: _____

Which saint said that the Body of Christ is like a human body?



Prayer Celebration

A Prayer for the Body of Christ

Leader: Saint Paul wrote a letter to the early Christians who lived in the city of Corinth. He told them that all the members of the Church must work together. To help the Corinthians understand this idea, Saint Paul used a comparison. He said that the Church, or Body of Christ, is like a human body. All the parts need each other and must work together.

Reader: A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Corinthians.

A body is one, but it has many parts. It needs all its parts: feet, eyes, ears, everything to work. For example, the body has eyes. Is the ear a part of the body even if it is not an eye? Yes! The body needs hearing as well as sight. It is the same with Christ and his Church. Each of us makes up the Body of Christ. No matter who we are, we are all baptized into one Body, the Church.

Based on 1 Corinthians 12:12–26

Leader: Let us now pray for the Body of Christ, the Church.

All: Jesus, help us to carry out your mission in the world. Help us to use our gifts and talents for the good of your Church. We ask this in your name. Amen.

Summarize the main idea of each chapter in Unit 2.

Chapter 5:
We Are Baptized into the
Body of Christ

Chapter 6:
Baptism and Confirmation

Chapter 7:
Grace: A Gift of Strength
and Support

Chapter 8:
We Profess Our Faith



- A** Match column A with column B by writing the correct number in the space provided.

A

B

1. Sacrament of Confirmation

_____ charity, joy, peace, patience,
kindness, goodness, generosity,
gentleness, faithfulness, modesty,
self-control, chastity

2. Original Sin

_____ the People of God

3. Apostles' Creed

_____ the experience of accepting God's
grace and turning away from sin

4. Chrism

_____ Baptism, Confirmation, Eucharist

5. Fruits of the Holy Spirit

_____ contains the central truths of the
Catholic faith

6. Body of Christ

_____ gives us a special outpouring of
the Holy Spirit and strengthens us
for carrying out Christ's mission in
the world

7. Sacraments of Christian Initiation

_____ the sin of Adam and Eve that has
been passed on to all human beings

8. conversion

_____ frees us from Original Sin and all
personal sins and makes us children
of God and members of the Body
of Christ

9. Gifts of the Holy Spirit

_____ wisdom, understanding, counsel,
fortitude, knowledge, piety, fear of
the Lord

10. Sacrament of Baptism

_____ perfumed oil that has been
consecrated by the bishop

B Who am I? Write the correct name in the space provided.

Saint Rose Duchesne	Jesus	Saint Katharine Drexel
Dorothy Day	Ananias	Saint Maximilian Kolbe
Holy Spirit	Saint Paul	Saint Patrick
Saint Lorenzo Ruiz		

- When I was imprisoned by the Nazis in Poland, I did not lose hope but instead prayed the Rosary and sang hymns to the Blessed Virgin Mary.

- My name means "God saves." _____
- With the help of my friend Peter Maurin, I opened a house of hospitality where poor people could get a good meal and have a safe place to stay.

- At the baptism of Jesus, I descended upon him from the heavens like a dove.

- I am the first saint and martyr of the Philippines. _____
- When I visited Rome, Pope Leo XIII suggested that I become a missionary to the Native Americans of the United States. _____
- In a vision, Jesus told me to go to Saul and heal him of his blindness.

- The Potawatomi Indians of Kansas called me "the woman who prays always."

- When I was captured by pirates and taken to Ireland as a shepherd slave, I continued to hope in God and pray to him. _____
- After my conversion on the road to Damascus, I traveled to many countries to tell the people the Good News of Jesus Christ. _____

- C Match** column A with column B by writing the correct number in the space provided.

A

1. counsel

2. fear of the Lord

3. understanding

4. piety

5. knowledge

6. wisdom

7. fortitude

B

_____ strengthens us to be witnesses of Jesus Christ and to defend our Catholic faith

_____ helps us to know God's will for our lives

_____ inspires us to be filled with love and reverence for God and to be grateful for all the blessings he has given us

_____ helps us to know what is right and to make good choices

_____ helps us love and respect God and all that he has created

_____ enables us to know the teachings of our Catholic faith

_____ helps us to know that God is more important than anything else in life

- D Respond** to the following.

1. In what ways did Saint Lorenzo Ruiz show his great faith?

2. What are two things a person your age could do to grow in faith?
